

國立彰化師範大學103學年度碩士班招生考試試題

系所： 翻譯研究所

科目： 英文(含作文)

☆☆請在答案紙上作答☆☆

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I. Multiple Choices (60%)

Instructions: There are two reading sections and each contains ten questions. Answer these questions. In each question, you must select one best answer out of four choices.

Section A:

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is once again stirring Asia's cauldron of national rivalries and historical resentments. This time, he has 1 a committee of historians to reexamine the official apology delivered in 1993 to World War II-era sex slaves held in Japanese military brothels. It is clear from various recent statements that some of Abe's closest advisers believe that the apology was not in order, so the committee might well conclude that Japan was never officially involved in prostitution, and that its "sincere remorse" should therefore be withdrawn.

What perverse reason could Abe have for pursuing such an outcome?

Glossing over, or denying, dark chapters of national history is not unique to Japan, of course. There is no room for Stalin's mass murders in the kind of "patriotic" education favored by Russian President Vladimir Putin. And the Tiananmen Square Massacre, to name but one bloody event in China's recent past, has been officially forgotten.

Still, Japan is a democracy, with freedom of expression. The official apology made in 1993 was 2 by a Japanese historian's discovery of documents showing that the Imperial Japanese Army had been directly involved in setting up, though not necessarily in running, what were known as "comfort stations." One of the official reasons was that widespread rape of Chinese women by Japanese soldiers was 3 too much resistance among the local population.

Various means were used to stock the brothels with young women. But, because there was no escape, the women, once ensnared in the system, were 4 slaves.

This has been officially admitted, so why reopen the ghastly business now, at a time when rescinding the apology would make Japan's already-strained relations with China and South Korea many times worse?

If Abe and his allies were cosmopolitan in their outlook, with a deep understanding of, or concern for, other countries, the decision to revisit the 1993 apology would indeed be extraordinary. But, as is true of many political leaders, especially on the nationalistic right, they are chauvinistic provincials whose concerns are almost entirely domestic. In their efforts to revise the historical record, they are not really thinking of Koreans or Chinese, but of political adversaries at home.

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The views of the Japanese on their country's wartime history are deeply divided, reflecting political battle lines drawn in the immediate aftermath of the war, when Japan was under Allied occupation. The United States, which ran the occupation, was 5 to reform Japanese society in such a way that another war would be unthinkable. Worship of the emperor was abolished, though Hirohito remained on his throne. Education was purged of all militaristic and "feudal" elements, including favorable references to the samurai spirit. A new pacifist constitution, written by the Americans, banned the use of armed force. And Japan's wartime leaders were tried in Tokyo by Allied judges for "crimes against peace" and "crimes against humanity."

Most Japanese, heartily sick of war and military bullying, were happy to go along with all of this. But there was always a right-wing minority that felt humiliated and resentful of the loss of national pride and, more important, national 6, for Japan's security would henceforth have to depend entirely on the protection offered by the US.

One of the main leaders of this group of disgruntled nationalists was Nobusuke Kishi, Abe's grandfather. Kishi's aim was to regain Japanese pride and sovereignty by revising the constitution and reviving old-fashioned patriotism, thus undoing some of the American educational reforms. He failed, because most Japanese were still allergic to anything that smacked of militarism.

Until not long ago, there was a strong left-wing current in education and some of the media that used Japan's horrendous wartime record as an argument against any kind of revisionism. But, as long as the Japanese left used history to make this political 7, the nationalists pushed back by claiming that stories of wartime atrocities had been greatly exaggerated.

Books about the infamous Nanking Massacre of 1937, or the enslavement of "comfort women" in military brothels, were denounced as "historical masochism" or dismissed as "the Tokyo Trial View of History." The left was accused of being complicit in spreading foreign – Chinese, Korean, or American – propaganda.

This, then, is the modern Japanese version of populism: the "liberal elites," by falsifying the history of Japan's glorious war to "liberate Asia," undermined the Japanese people's moral 8. Because the ideological collapse of left-wing politics in Japan has been as precipitous as in much of the Western world, the so-called liberal elites have lost much of their former influence. As a result, the voice of the nationalist right has grown louder in recent years.

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That is why Abe can get away with appointing 9 to the board of NHK, the national broadcasting company, who openly claim that the military brothels were an entirely private enterprise and that the Nanking Massacre was a foreign fabrication. Historical truth is not the point; political mastery is.

Japan's prime minister is playing a risky game. He is upsetting allies in Asia, embarrassing the US, and making bad relations with China even worse. Like Putin, he is driving himself and his country into further isolation for entirely domestic reasons. In a region increasingly 10 by Chinese power, he will be without Asian friends.

And that is where Abe's behavior becomes truly perverse. After all, a Japan that is isolated in Asia will be even more dependent on the US, the wartime victor, which Abe and his nationalist allies hold responsible for the postwar order that they seek to revise.

From Sorry for Nothing by Ian Buruma

1. (a) commanded (b) deployed (c) devised (d) instructed
2. (a) propelled (b) prompted (c) activitated (d) provoked
3. (a) provoking (b) igniting (c) generating (d) spreading
4. (a) effectually (b) effectively (c) factually (d) equivalently
5. (a) alert (b) watchful (c) keen (d) focused
6. (a) independence (b) dominance (c) excellence (d) sovereignty
7. (a) argument (b) proposition (c) suggestion (d) premise
8. (a) base (b) fibre (c) backbone (d) basline
9. (a) advisers (b) associates (c) cronies (d) subordinates
10. (a) governed (b) dominated (c) managed (d) operated

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Section B:

Note: There are two brackets for question 15, just select one word for both brackets.

When Mary Barra was named CEO of General Motors in early December – the first woman to head a major American automaker – it seemed to many to be a milestone in women’s struggle for equal 11 and opportunities. But, in a climate in which, as Catalyst, the feminist glass-ceiling watchdog, points out, only 4.2% of US Fortune 500 CEOs are women, is Barra’s promotion really a victory?

One way to answer that question is to consider who is doing the judging. In the United States, by one count, two-thirds of professional journalists are men, and men account for almost 90% of bylines in economics and business reporting in traditional media. In fact, the reflexive worldview of male-dominated business-news coverage invalidates all talk of a victory, whether for Barra or for the rest of us – including impressionable 15-year-old girls seeking role models and a message of empowerment.

Feminist analysts of language and media in the 1970’s, notably the critic Dale Spender, examined how language is used to deny women credit, power, and agency when their successes are noted. That 12 remains valid today.

Many news stories about female CEOs and other high-achieving women are coded with a set of reliable clichés: they lucked into their new roles (and thus do not deserve them), inherited them from male relatives or spouses (and thus do not really hold the reins of power), or will not be there for long. If all else fails, coverage concentrates so narrowly on gender that a woman’s very leadership is weakened.

These clichés not only undermine successful women’s reputations; in the case of CEOs, they also reduce their 13 to their companies. And *all* of these clichés were reproduced in the coverage of Barra’s 14 at GM.

For example, CNN covered the story by referring to Barra’s “knack for climbing the corporate ladder” – a phrase with some suggestive undertones, and one that would never be used with a man at the top, for whom, presumably, hard work, talent, ambition, and dedication constitute more than a “knack.” It concluded by suggesting that Barra will have succeeded when people no longer call her “car girl” but “boss” – though the report offers no evidence that anyone is in fact calling Barra “car girl” rather than “boss.”

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Likewise, the *New York Times* led with Barra's father, and its headline suggested that she was "born to" her role, as if ambition and hard work had nothing to do with her ascent. It notes the car her husband drives and describes her as "soft-spoken." And it includes an excruciating quote from her predecessor, Daniel F. Akerson: "Mary was 15 for her talent, not her gender." Promoting Barra, he goes on to say, "was almost like watching your daughter graduate from college."

It is difficult to imagine a black male middle-aged CEO (Barra is 51) being introduced to reporters with the assurance that "he was not 15 for his race." And it is difficult to 16 his white colleague telling the national press that watching this 51-year-old man lead is like watching a 22-year-old "son" receive his BA.

Then there is the "Potemkin CEO" approach, which implicitly 17 that powerful men would never really choose a woman to lead an important institution. According to this cliché, Barra's promotion must be a public-relations 18, with men retaining the real power behind the façade. So we get this headline from *Fortune* magazine: "Is GM's 19 Setting up Mary Barra to Fail as New CEO?" The article goes on to explain that being surrounded by male rivals for her job may fatally weaken Barra, as if male CEOs were not also surrounded by would-be rivals.

Perhaps that is because she really is just a lady first, not a manager. An interview in the *New York Times*' business section manages to focus the entire discussion on how things have changed for women at GM, rather than on what Barra intends to change at GM as CEO, or even on how things have changed in the car industry – surely an important question. The interviewer even asks at the end whether her husband is a GM employee.

With coverage like this, news becomes more than news; it becomes a real-world outcome that negatively affects a company's bottom-line. Why would a major corporation – especially one like GM, which suffered a serious crisis that led to a massive government bailout in 2008 – risk appointing leaders, no matter how talented, who are bound to generate devaluing news coverage such as this?

I cannot fathom why serious journalists commit such egregious 20 of basic professional norms of fairness and impartiality. When they do, they are performing the role of guard dogs of an endangered patriarchy, defending – and thus strengthening – the glass ceiling.

From *The Girl Can't Help It* by Naomi Wolf

11. (a) priveledges (b) positions (c) rights (d) powers
12. (a) critique (b) criticism (c) bashing (d) condemnation

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13. (a) benefit (b) contribution (c) value (d) credit
14. (a) designation (b) assignment (c) delegation (d) appointment
15. (a) selected (b) picked (c) elected (d) voted
16. (a) imagine (b) relate (c) associate (d) predict
17. (a) induct (b) assume (c) conclude (d) deduct
18. (a) design (b) strategy (c) master plan (d) ploy
19. (a) Panel (b) Board (c) Group (d) Team
20. (a) trespasses (b) betrayal (c) breaches (d) deny

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II. Writing: (40%)

Read the following editorial extracted from *New York Times*. Write an essay of 250 words. Summarize the main point of the editorial first, and then express your viewpoint.

Liberty, Equality, Efficiency (March 9, 2013)

It's widely known that income inequality varies a great deal among advanced countries. In particular, disposable income in the United States and Britain is much more unequally distributed than it is in France, Germany or Scandinavia. It's less well known that this difference is primarily the result of government policies. Data assembled by the Luxembourg Income Study show that primary income — income from wages, salaries, assets, and so on — is very unequally distributed in almost all countries. But taxes and transfers (aid in cash or kind) reduce this underlying inequality to varying degrees: some but not a lot in America, much more in many other countries.

So does reducing inequality through redistribution hurt economic growth? Not according to two landmark studies by economists at the International Monetary Fund, which is hardly a leftist organization. The first study looked at the historical relationship between inequality and growth, and found that nations with relatively low income inequality do better at achieving sustained economic growth as opposed to occasional "spurts." The second, released last month, looked directly at the effect of income redistribution, and found that "redistribution appears generally benign in terms of its impact on growth."

At this point someone is sure to say, "But doesn't the crisis in Europe show the destructive effects of the welfare state?" No, it doesn't. Europe is paying a heavy price for creating monetary union without political union. But within the euro area, countries doing a lot of redistribution have, if anything, weathered the crisis better than those that do less.

But how can the effects of redistribution on growth be benign? Doesn't generous aid to the poor reduce their incentive to work? Don't taxes on the rich reduce their incentive to get even richer? Yes and yes — but incentives aren't the only things that matter. Resources matter too — and in a highly unequal society, many people don't have them.

Think, in particular, about the ever-popular slogan that we should seek equality of opportunity, not equality of outcomes. That may sound good to people with no idea what life is like for tens of millions of Americans; but for those with any reality sense, it's a cruel joke. Almost 40 percent of American children live in poverty or near-poverty. Do you really think they have the same access to education and jobs as the children of the affluent?

In fact, low-income children are much less likely to complete college than their affluent counterparts, with the gap widening rapidly. And this isn't just bad for those unlucky enough to be born to the wrong parents; it represents a huge and growing waste of human potential — a waste that surely acts as a powerful if invisible drag on economic growth.